



MEMORANDUM

Date: October 7, 2011

TO: All Driver Education Schools and Instructors

FROM: Bill Kraft, Section Manager, Driver Educational Programs

SUBJECT: Cell Phone Usage

In consideration of the recent updates to statutes regarding the use of cellular devices while operating a motor vehicle that took effect on October 1, and the continued focus on distracted driving, it seemed an appropriate time to send a quick reminder to schools and instructors. The use of a cellular device by an instructor while conducting behind-the-wheel training is, in addition to being an extremely unsafe act, a violation of COMAR. As a reminder, COMAR 11.23.02.18D states:

D. A certified instructor may not use a cell phone or allow the student to use a cell phone in a moving motor vehicle while conducting behind-the-wheel instruction, except in the event of an emergency.

It is our responsibility as the persons committed to teaching safe driving practices to effectively model safe behaviors.